Rehabilitation of Dhakeshwari Cotton Mills Ltd. Asansol

2930. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Industrial Development Bank of India had asked Dhakeshwari Cotton Mills Ltd. Asansol, West Bengal to send a project report in connection with its rehabilitation scheme;

(b) if so, whether the project report has been submitted; and

(c) what decision has been taken by the Industrial Development Bank of India thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) yes, Sir.

(c) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that as the Project Report did not contain full information to process the company's request for sanction of financial assistance, the company has been asked to furnish the requisite information.

Payment of Arrears to Regional Rural Bank Staff

2931. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to UnStarred Question 2661 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th December '91 and state:

(a) whether the mechanism for the payment of arrears to Regional Rural Bank staff have been finalised;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the element of interest involved on account of delay in the finalisation of the laid mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the total financial implications of payment of arrears to Regional Rural Bank employees consequent on the fixation of pay in the sponsor bank scales for the period prior to 1.1.1991 is around Rs. 200 crores. It is normally the responsibility of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) concerned themselves to make payment of arrears of pay etc. to their employees. However, as these banks do not have funds of this order, various alternative proposals for settling the matter are being worked out by NABARD, Reserve Bank of India the Central Government. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee on Financial System, the reorganisation of the Rural Credit Delivery System including restructuring of RRBs would be considered. No decisions have so far been taken on the Committee's recommendations.

Amount pending with sponsoring Banks of Regional Rural Banks

2932. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of refinance for Regional Rural Banks pending with the sponsoring banks during the last one year; and

(b) what is the amount of reimbursement of salaries of deputed officers and training advance amount pending with sponsoring banks during last one year, Regional Rural Bank wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a): The recommended proportions for providing refinance to the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) amongst sponsor banks, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and RRBs own involvement are as under:

	Short term (Seasonal Agricultural Operations)	Short term (Non-seasonal agricultural operations)	Medium term (Non-Schematic)
Sponsor Bank	120	20	20
NABARD	50	50	60
RRBs own involvement	30	30	20

The sponsor banks' refinance outstanding at Present is Rs. 304 crores. The sponsor banks are not to contribute refinance assistance for schematic purposes where NABARD provides refinance, at varying rates, and the balance is met by RRBs own resources, The bulk of the loaning by RRBs falls under schematic refinance.

(b) While the figures relating to reimbursement claims of RRBs pending with the sponsor banks in respect of deputed staff from sponsor bank and their training expenses are not available, the data reported in the profit and loss account for the year 1990-91 shows that an amount of Rs. 823.76 lakhs had been reimbursed to the RRBs by the sponsor banks as subsidy pertaining to salary and allowances in respect of deputed staff and training expenses.

Wages of Sweepers In Regional Rural Banks

2933. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact National Tribunal has awarded that "Sweepers" of Regional Rural Banks are to be given wages as per Sponsoring Banks rates which are guided by the bi-partite agreement; and

(b) if so, what is the number of Regional Rural Banks in the country which have given the said benefit to their sweepers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) In terms of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Officers and employees of RRBs are to be allowed pay scales, allowances and other benefits as applicable to employees of comparable level in sponsor banks. Government orders implementing the Tribunal's award alongwith the equation of posts have been issued on 22.2.91. Since the pay scales of sweepers in sponsor banks which form part of sub-ordinatecadre are guided by bi-partite settlements between employees' association and Indian Banks Association, the sweepers serving in RRBs are also to be allowed the same terms in accordance with the Tribunal's award. The factual information regarding the Regional Rural Banks who have implemented Government's instructions in this regard is not available.

Agitation by Regional Rural Bank Employees

2934. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the issues on which the All India Regional Rural Bank Employees Association has issued a letter to Government for agitation in March, 1992; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to resolve the Issues and to avoid agitation by Regional Rural Bank Employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The issues on which All India Regional Rural Bank Employees Association have given notice of adopting an agitational approach are as follows:

(i) Complete implementation of National Industrial Tribunal Award for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs),

(ii) Payment of arrears in sponsor bank pay scales to RRB employees from 1.9.87 to 31.12.1990.